

AUTHORITY TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS

Mr. ENSIGN. I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President of the Senate pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to Public Law 106-310, announces the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the Commission on Indian and Native Alaskan Health Care: Buford L. Rolin, of Alabama; and Jimmy Wallace, of Mississippi.

The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to Public Law 105-177, announces the appointment of Kerrie S. Lunsford, of Georgia, to serve as a member of the Parent Advisory Council on Youth Drug Abuse for a one-year term.

The Chair announces, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to Public Law 101-509, the appointment of Michael B. Ballard, of Mississippi, to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, after consultation with the Democratic leader, pursuant to Public Law 93-415, as amended by Public Law 102-586, announces the appointment of Lenore L. Prather, of Mississippi, to serve for a one-year term as a member of the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, vice Michael W. McPhail.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. ENSIGN. In executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 58, 61, 85, 155, 158; and that the Finance Committee be discharged from further consideration of Peter Allgeier, PN 270, and Linnet Deily, PN 347, and the Senate proceed to their immediate consideration; I also ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged of the nomination of Arthur Rosenfeld, PN 469, and the Senate proceed to its consideration, as well. I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the

table, any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed, en bloc, are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

David Aufhauser, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel for the Department of the Treasury.

John B. Taylor, of California, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

David S. C. Chu, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Thelma J. Askey, of Tennessee, to be Director of the Trade and Development Agency.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Claude A. Allen, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PN270. Peter F. Allgeier, of Virginia, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

PN347. Linnet F. Deily, of California, to be Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador.

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

PN469. Arthur F. Rosenfeld, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator will return to legislative session.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2001

Mr. ENSIGN. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn under the provisions of H. Con. Res. 146 until the hour of 12 noon on Tuesday, June 5, 2001. I further ask unanimous consent that on Tuesday, immediately following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and there be a period for morning business until 12:30 p.m., with Members recognized to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ENSIGN. I further ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess between the hours of 12:30 and 2:15 p.m. on Tuesday for the weekly party conferences to meet.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. ENSIGN. For the information of all Senators, the Senate will reconvene

on Tuesday, June 5, at 12 noon and recess for the weekly policy luncheons from 12:30 to 2:15 p.m.

I wish everyone a good Memorial Day and congratulate the American people on the victory of a tax cut that will have positive effects on the economy.

Mr. BROWNBACK. I ask unanimous consent to speak for 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I now ask the Senate stand in adjournment under the provisions of H. Con. Res. 146 following the remarks of Senators BROWNBACK, ROCKEFELLER, and TORRICELLI.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Kansas.

THE TAX BILL

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I want to take just a few minutes at the closing to congratulate some key individuals, starting with Senator CHUCK GRASSLEY of Iowa. Senator GRASSLEY has worked doggedly to get this tax bill completed. He has done an artful, masterful job. He has worked with numbers of individuals—everybody in the Congress, in the House, the Senate, the White House—in order to get this bill on through. He deserves our applause and great thanks and appreciation. Senator MAX BAUCUS led on the Democrat side. He did a great job as well on getting this bill and moving it on through.

I also want to recognize our leadership, TRENT LOTT and DON NICKLES in particular, both of them, in their aggressive efforts to get this tax bill, this tax cut that is needed by the American economy, that is deserved by the American public, on through the system. Without their efforts, it would not have taken place.

Of course, I also want to recognize and thank the House of Representatives, Chairman THOMAS on the Ways and Means Committee, Speaker HASTERT, and people there who pushed this bill on through so it could get done.

Finally, I recognize the person who, a year ago, started talking about the need for major tax relief in this country, and that is President George W. Bush, who put this forward in the campaign. I might note that was accompanied by a fair amount of consternation on the part of a number of people, saying it is too big, too much; we cannot afford to do this; it is not the right thing, it is not the right time—all of which proved to be false. He was right. The American economy needs this. The American people deserve this. This is the right time. It is the right place. Now we are going to do that \$1.35 trillion worth of tax relief for which the President has asked.

If you are getting a headache coming on, most people would say take an aspirin before it really sets in hard. If you get a recession that is coming on, and a downturn in the economy, most economists would note to you: Act early and act surely and act clearly to try to prevent that. The Federal Reserve has done that by easing the monetary supply and lowering interest rates five times. Five times the Federal Reserve has done that in anticipation of a slowing economy, saying we are going to do everything we can to keep this economy from going into recession. Economists would say that is monetary policy.

There is fiscal policy on the other side. In fiscal policy, you cut taxes if you anticipate a slowing of the economy. You need to do so clearly. You need to do so in ways that stimulate the economy, and you need to do it early before recession sets in. It is similar to that headache: If it starts pounding and you take two aspirin, it doesn't do much. But if you start much earlier, when it is just starting, then you can pull back out of it.

The same is true with fiscal policy. We needed this tax cut for the economy. Rate reduction is the key way to do that. This is primarily about rate reduction, although it has great provisions on marriage penalty relief, educational savings relief, death taxes, and a number of different provisions in the bill—retirement security, adoption tax credits so people can be in a better position to afford the cost of adoption.

This is what the doctor ordered. This is what the economists have said we need and we need to do now. This should be the package enabling us to assure that the economy, while slowing, does not go into recession. This is exactly what the doctor ordered.

The individuals who led in this effort should be commended and recognized and given a real attaboy for seeing this

early and putting us in the situation where now we are in the latter part of May putting this through and getting it done now, before we really could get into some trouble spots.

I think this is exactly the appropriate thing for management of this great economy in the United States that has had some difficulties here lately, for us to do the right thing. The individuals I mentioned certainly deserve our praise and accolades for getting it done.

This is a great day for the country. It is an important day for the economy. It is a necessary day for the economy. It is the right thing and a deserved day for the American taxpayers.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak in morning business for a period of 7 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is recognized for that purpose.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. I thank the Chair. (The remarks of Mr. ROCKEFELLER pertaining to the introduction of S. 981 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TUESDAY,
JUNE 5, 2001

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate now stands adjourned.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:54 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, June 5, 2001, at 12 noon.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate May 26, 2001:

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

DAVID AUFHAUSER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY.

JOHN B. TAYLOR, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AN UNDER SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

THE ABOVE NOMINATIONS WERE APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEES' COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DAVID S.C. CHU, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PERSONNEL AND READINESS.

THE ABOVE NOMINATION WAS APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEE'S COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.

U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

THELMA J. ASKEY, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.

THE ABOVE NOMINATION WAS APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEE'S COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

CLAUDE A. ALLEN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

THE ABOVE NOMINATION WAS APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEE'S COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PETER F. ALLGEIER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A DEPUTY UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

LINNET F. DEILY, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A DEPUTY UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

ARTHUR F. ROSENFELD, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS.